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FRENTE REVOLUCIONARIA DE TIMOR - LESTE INDEPENDENTE

(Revolutionary Front for an Independent East Timor)

FRETILIN

PRESS RELEASE

DFC/09.90

6th September, 1990.

MORE THAN 20 000 EAST TIMORESE DEMONSTRATED AGIANST THE INDONESIAN OCCUPATION OF THEIR MOTHER LAND IN DILI

MORE THAN 20 000 EAST TIMORESE CATHOLICS PRESENT AT THE OPEN AIR MASS, IN DILI LECIDERE, ON 4th OF SEPTEMBER 1990, TO CELEBRATE THE 50º ANIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDATION OF THE DIOCESE OF DILI, DEMONSTRATED DEFIANTLY AT THE END OF THE MASS (about 5 p.m.), SHOUTING "LONG LIVE FRETILIN", "LONG LIVE XANANA GUSMAO", "INDEPENDENCE FOR EAST TIMOR" AND "LONG LIVE THE MAUBERE PEOPLE", UNFOLDING AT THE SAME TIME FRETILIN FLAGS AND BANNERS. PRESENT AT THE MASS THE NUNCIO APOSTOLIC, FOR INDONESIA, MONSGR CANILILI, AS GUEST OF HONOUR, WHO REFUSED TO TALK TO AN EAST TIMORESE YOUTH DELEGATION THAT QUESTIONED HIM ABOUT THE VATICAN'S POSITION REGARDING EAST TIMOR. ABOUT 6.30 P.M. THE NUNCIO LEFT THE AREA UNDER MILITARY ESCORT AND, RETURNED TO THE BISHOP'S BELO RESIDENCE. THEN, THE PEOPLE RETURNED HOME, IN LARGE GROUPS, ARMED WITH ROCKS AND STIKS, SHOUTING FRETILIN'S SLOGANS AND SINGING FRETILIN'S ANTHEM. NO ARRESTS WERE MADE.

For futher information please contact Alfredo Ferreira, FRETILIN's representative for Australia. on 279177. After 2:30